

From: Steve Bodis
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/11/02 8:49pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Attached is a letter concerning my support of the settlement reached between the Department of Justice and Microsoft.

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January 11 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft
United States Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530-0001

Dear Attorney General Ashcroft:

Microsoft and the Department of Justice have finally reached a settlement to the antitrust case brought against Microsoft several years ago. This was reached after a long, litigious battle, costing both sides enormous amounts of money and time. I support this agreement. Microsoft has agreed to a wish list drawn up by its competitors, basically: Free intellectual property in the Windows internal interfaces, non-discriminatory licensing, no retaliation for using non-Microsoft software within Windows, and a committee to ride herd on Microsoft's living up to the agreement.

This country has been through some very difficult times, but we have rebounded and with the new year, I think everyone is ready to move on. Settling this antitrust case is one way to move on, allowing us to concentrate on more important things such as the economy. And regardless of what you may think of Microsoft, the company is the engine that propels this economy. When Microsoft was served with the antitrust lawsuit, the NASDAQ plummeted. The economy has yet to recover. Microsoft, from what I know of the settlement, has more than acceded to the demands of the Department of Justice. Any further litigation would be very damaging. I personally think competitors of Microsoft held too much sway over the indictment against the company and I would hate to think these same people would impede us from moving forward and putting this case to rest.

I support this settlement. I ask that you do also.

Sincerely,

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Istvan Zoltan Bodis